

Mellor holds talks in Baghdad

BAGHDAD (AP) — British envoy David Mellor held talks Wednesday with Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz on the situation in the Gulf region and bilateral relations, British embassy officials said. During his one-hour meeting with the Iraqi official, Mellor, minister of state at the Foreign Office, also discussed efforts under way at the United Nations to end the Iran-Iraq war and the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, a British embassy spokesman said. Mellor, an aide to British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe with special responsibility for the Middle East, recently made headlines when he criticised Israel's practices in the occupied territories. The Iraqi News Agency (INA) said the talks touched on the moves at the United Nations Security Council to impose an arms embargo on Iran for refusing to agree to the world body's peace calls. Aziz recently concluded a visit to China. He told reporters in Peking that the Security Council's five permanent members now support the concept of such an embargo. Mellor arrived in the Iraqi capital late Tuesday.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily established by the Jordan Times Foundation

جريدة تابع لمؤسسة الجريدة الأردنية (الرأي)

Volume 13 Number 3715

AMMAN THURSDAY-FRIDAY FEBRUARY 25-26, 1988, RAJAB 7-8, 1408

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Regent sends good wishes to Kuwait

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, sent a cable of good wishes to the Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, on the occasion of Kuwait's National Day anniversary. In the cable, the Regent wished the emir continued health and happiness and more progress and prosperity for the Kuwaiti people.

Mubarak regrets charges against Nasser's son

CAIRO (AP) — President Hosni Mubarak said Wednesday that terrorism allegations against Gamal Abdul Nasser's eldest son won't tarnish the image of the late Egyptian president. Mubarak was quoted as saying he regretted that Khaled Abdul Nasser, 38, was among 20 men charged in connection with four shootings between 1984 and 1987 that killed two Israelis and wounded six others and two Americans. Mubarak spoke at a closed meeting with senior officers of Egypt's 2nd and 3rd armies, both stationed in the Suez Canal zone.

Moscow replaces Azerbaijani party leader

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet authorities Wednesday sacked the Communist Party leader in a region of Soviet Azerbaijan where ethnic Armenians have been demonstrating for reunification with Armenia, TASS news agency reported. The announcement came amid reports of renewed nationalist demonstrations in the Armenian capital of Yerevan and protests in other towns in the republic, dissident sources said (see page 8). A full meeting of the party committee in the Nagorno-Karabakh of Azerbaijan relieved First Secretary Boris Kevorkov of his duties for "shortcomings in his work," it said. His successor was named as Genrikh Pogosyan, first deputy chairman of the regional assembly.

Balkan ministers open meeting

BELGRADE (AP) — The first post-war conference of Balkan foreign ministers opened Wednesday with Albania strongly indicating an end to its self-imposed isolation and signalling a willingness to cooperate with its neighbours. Yugoslav President Lazar Mijatov opened the session of six Balkan countries.

Gold price at lowest level since April

LONDON (R) — The gold price fell to its lowest since April 1987 in London Wednesday, dealers said. It touched a low around \$431.75, down \$10 on Tuesday's London closing price. It recovered to around \$435.00 in later Wednesday trading but dealers said it may remain under pressure.

Junejo to visit Iran

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistani Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo will visit Iran next month, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said here Wednesday. The spokesman said the visit's dates would be announced later.

INSIDE

- Amal knows whereabouts of Higgins and his kidnappers, page 2
- Mass returns after signing minutes of Sanaa talks, page 3
- Minimum wage revisited, page 4
- Every generation is involved in uprising page 5
- Flying Finn finds way to record books, page 6
- Jordanian, Egyptian businessmen open talks today, page 7
- Pretoria bans political activities of 17 groups, page 8

Palestinians observe total general strike in W. Bank and Gaza

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — A general strike and violent protests hit the occupied territories Wednesday, along with the first report of an armed Arab attack on Israeli soldiers, as U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz prepared to kick off his new peace initiative.

Shultz was expected here Thursday bearing a new American plan to end the 11-week-old Palestinian uprising.

Jerusalem's police force was beefed up by an extra 1,500 officers, twice its normal size, and airport security was made tighter than ever to forestall protests during the Shultz visit.

The army said a bomb exploded on a road near Gaza as a military vehicle was passing about 11 p.m. Tuesday and shots were fired at the soldiers. No-one was hurt, the spokesman said. No further details were available.

Until now, protesting Palestinians have avoided using arms in their uprising against the Israeli occupation authorities, restricting their violence to throwing stones, bottles and other objects and

tossing an occasional firebomb.

Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat has said arms would not be used at this stage of the uprising, but did not rule out using guns and explosives at a later point.

About 20 Arabs were arrested over the past couple of days on suspicion of taking part in protests, a police spokesman said.

At Silwan, an Arab village inside Jerusalem, all Palestinians leaving the community were checked and searched Wednesday.

Police sources quoted by Reuters said Palestinians lynched an Arab suspected of collaborating with the Israeli authorities Wednesday after he shot dead a four-year-old boy and wounded

13 people who attacked his home. The incident occurred in the northern West Bank village of Khatibiyeh, near Jenin.

The sources said Mohammad Al Ayad opened fire with an Israeli-licensed Uzi machine gun when villagers set his house on fire. He was taken out and hanged from an electricity pylon with a Palestinian flag, they said.

The Palestine Press Service (PPS) said Ayad was "recognised as an Israeli spy."

Israeli sources said only a handful of Palestinians who cooperated with the authorities were licensed to carry automatic weapons for their own protection.

Elsewhere in the occupied territories, Israeli troops shot and wounded four Palestinians during a violent demonstration in the Nuseirat refugee camp in the Gaza Strip, local residents said.

Israeli and Palestinian sources said the Gaza Strip and the West Bank were paralysed by commercial and transport strikes staged by nearly all the 1.5 million Palestinians in the occupied areas in protest against the U.S. peace plan.

Analysts say the only glimmer of hope rests with new-found confidence in relations between Washington and Moscow.

"We're not taking directions from the PLO on how to meet with Palestinians," the source told the AP on condition of anonymity. "Meeting outside Thursday is a no-go."

Palestinians invited to meet Shultz said they would boycott the encounter because the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has banned a meeting in the region.

"As far as we're concerned there won't be a meeting. The PLO has made clear its conditions," Gaza Strip lawyer Fayed Abu Rahme told the AP in an interview Wednesday.

PLO leader Yasser Arafat has approved a meeting in Amman or Cairo that would include Palestinians from both the occupied territories and outside, according to Hanna Simona, who reportedly met with PLO leaders in Europe Monday.

Shultz, who arrives here



A scene from the snow hit Amman streets Wednesday (photo by Yousef Al Allan)

Palestinians, U.S. officials deadlocked over proposed meeting with Shultz

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Palestinians and U.S. officials have reached an impasse over a proposed meeting between a Palestinian delegation and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, who launches a new Middle East peace initiative Thursday.

Palestinians invited to meet Shultz said they would boycott the encounter because the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has banned a meeting in the region.

But David Good, spokesman for the U.S. consulate in Jerusalem, said he had no guarantees a meeting would take place.

"We'll see. We still have a little bit of time left. Mr. Shultz wants to have Palestinians involved in the process and would like to meet Palestinians in Jerusalem," he said.

Shultz admits he is up against widespread scepticism. "Well, I don't think people give me much chance of success," he said in Brussels Tuesday.

Analysts say the only glimmer of hope rests with new-found confidence in relations between Washington and Moscow.

"We're not taking directions from the PLO on how to meet with Palestinians," the source told the AP on condition of anonymity. "Meeting outside Thursday is a no-go."

Palestinians invited to meet Shultz said they would boycott the encounter because the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has banned a meeting in the region.

But David Good, spokesman for the U.S. consulate in Jerusalem, said he had no guarantees a meeting would take place.

"We'll see. We still have a little bit of time left. Mr. Shultz wants to have Palestinians involved in the process and would like to meet Palestinians in Jerusalem," he said.

Shultz admits he is up against widespread scepticism. "Well, I don't think people give me much chance of success," he said in Brussels Tuesday.

Analysts say the only glimmer of hope rests with new-found confidence in relations between Washington and Moscow.

"We're not taking directions from the PLO on how to meet with Palestinians," the source told the AP on condition of anonymity. "Meeting outside Thursday is a no-go."

Palestinians invited to meet Shultz said they would boycott the encounter because the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has banned a meeting in the region.

But David Good, spokesman for the U.S. consulate in Jerusalem, said he had no guarantees a meeting would take place.

"We'll see. We still have a little bit of time left. Mr. Shultz wants to have Palestinians involved in the process and would like to meet Palestinians in Jerusalem," he said.

Shultz admits he is up against widespread scepticism. "Well, I don't think people give me much chance of success," he said in Brussels Tuesday.

Analysts say the only glimmer of hope rests with new-found confidence in relations between Washington and Moscow.

"We're not taking directions from the PLO on how to meet with Palestinians," the source told the AP on condition of anonymity. "Meeting outside Thursday is a no-go."

Palestinians invited to meet Shultz said they would boycott the encounter because the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has banned a meeting in the region.

But David Good, spokesman for the U.S. consulate in Jerusalem, said he had no guarantees a meeting would take place.

"We'll see. We still have a little bit of time left. Mr. Shultz wants to have Palestinians involved in the process and would like to meet Palestinians in Jerusalem," he said.

Shultz admits he is up against widespread scepticism. "Well, I don't think people give me much chance of success," he said in Brussels Tuesday.

Snow blizzard hits Jordan

By Nermene Murad and agency dispatches

AMMAN — In a scene not witnessed here in eight years, the capital changed colours Tuesday night as a white blanket of snow obliterated the features of the city, knocking out electricity lines and leaving hundreds of people trapped in streets or offices while cars slid and bumped into each other in dozens of accidents.

The cold front, which started hitting the Kingdom three days ago, brought with it eight centimetres of snow in the capital, while almost 16 centimetres fell in the southern mountain towns of Shobak, Raas Munieh and Raas Naqab, according to Ali Abanda, director of the Meteorological Department.

Abanda was quoted as saying by the Associated Press that "this is the coldest air mass for this season," which started in October and ends in May.

Abanda said the storm moved down from the North Pole through Turkey, Greece and the Soviet Union, and was expected to bring a precipitation of more than 15 centimetres of snow to Amman by the end of the day Wednesday.

Abanda also predicted that a similar storm was expected before Friday, this time coming from Italy.

A source in the Public Security Department told the Jordan Times that "there were about 150 minor accidents but there were no major injuries or fatalities reported." The department said all roads in the Kingdom had been reopened for traffic by Wednesday evening.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, visited the Civil Defence Department's operations room Wednesday and reviewed operations of the department in facing the hazards of the weather.

3 killed in W. Beirut car blast

BEIRUT (R) — A powerful bomb concealed in a taxi killed three people when it exploded in a crowded residential area of west Beirut Wednesday, witnesses said.

Explosives packed in the rear of the beige Mercedes went off near an Iraqi bank and the Greek embassy, covering the street with pools of blood, twisted metal and shattered glass.

The taxi driver, a woman passenger and a vegetable seller in a nearby shop died in the blast, which tore the back from the charred vehicle.

Civil defence rescuers said three people were also injured.

"Our car had just passed the taxi and we were only a few metres ahead when the explosion shook the area," a Syrian plainclothes security man told Reuters.

Hussein said "the failure" of the Syrian-Iraqi rapprochement was because of Syria's "disassociation of itself from the resolutions of the Annan summit" on Syrian-Iraqi relations.

He scoffed at reports that Iran had delayed plans for an offensive because of a Syrian goodwill bid with Tehran, and dropped hints that he wanted Arab leaders to stop trying to patch up his longstanding rift with Damascus.

"They have to answer, how did this happen?" Yeo said. "Why did it happen? To what extent was there official encouragement of deviation from established norms and regulations for the use of force?"

The Amnesty mission leaves Thursday and has yet to receive a formal response to the proposal. Yeo declined to say who he had met during the mission.

He scoffed at reports that Iran had delayed plans for an offensive because of a Syrian goodwill bid with Tehran, and dropped hints that he wanted Arab leaders to stop trying to patch up his longstanding rift with Damascus.

"In addition, our armed forces are now much stronger, better equipped and better trained," he said in the interview, conducted in Baghdad.

Stressing that there was "no hope in putting an end to Iran's subversive role except by closing all doors to it," he advised the Syrians "if they do not want to sympathise with Iraq, let them show solidarity with Kuwait, with Saudi Arabia, and with the United Arab Emirates if exposed to Iranian aggression."

Among the Kuwaiti newspapers that published the interview were Al Qabas, Al Seyassah, Al Rai Al Aam, Al Anbaa, Al Watan, the Arab Times and the

SS-12s leave E. Germany today

EAST GERMANY (Agencies) — Soviet troops will start withdrawing nuclear missiles from two bases at opposite ends of East Germany Thursday, before the treaty scrapping them is ratified, the East German Foreign Ministry said.

Announcing the move Wednesday, spokesman Wolfgang Meyer said it was meant to create favourable conditions for the U.S.-Soviet intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) treaty to be implemented and was aimed at boosting East-West confidence.

A similar Western gesture was now expected, he said.

"The announced withdrawal... will begin tomorrow," Meyer said in a statement printed on the front pages of East German newspapers and made available to reporters.

Moscow's elite rocket forces, among 380,000 Soviet troops

based in East Germany, will begin leaving by train Thursday

from Waren in the north and

Bischofswerda in the south with a first group of shorter-range SS-12 missiles.

According to the treaty memorandum, there are 22 SS-12s at Waren, a lakeside town,

and eight at Bischofswerda near Dresden. Both bases have training

rockets and mobile launchers.

Moscow says the SS-12s will be

kept at destruction sites deep in

the Soviet Union until the treaty

is ratified. Moscow has 54 SS-12s

at four East German bases and 53

SS-23s at two others. There are 39 SS-12s in Czechoslovakia, the only other Warsaw Pact ally where nuclear forces are stationed.

An announcement in Czechoslovakia's Communist Party daily newspaper Rude Pravo said the SS-12 Soviet missiles stationed on Czech territory would be re-

located in the next few days.

East Germany announced last week that SS-12s had been dis-

mantled, put into crates and were ready for transport back to the Soviet Union.

But it had not announced until

Wednesday when the missiles

would be transported out of the country.

East German leader Erich

Honecker indicated in January

that Soviet nuclear missiles in

Europe could be removed ahead of schedule.

Amal reportedly knows Higgins whereabouts

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon's Shi'ite Muslim Amal militia knows who is holding U.S. hostage William Higgins and where the kidnappers are, but does not want to use force to free him, Muslim political sources said Wednesday.

"Amal knows exactly the party that kidnapped the American and where the kidnappers are but is hesitant to use force to free him because it does not want to start an inter-Shi'ite feud or to go into battle with Iran's allies," said one source.

"Amal has all the information but the decision to use force is a political and not a security one," another source said.

Amal refused to identify who was behind the abduction.

Higgins, head of the Lebanon

unit of the U.N. Truce Supervision Organisation (UNTSO), was kidnapped by three bearded gunmen on Feb. 17 near the port city of Tyre.

A military official in Tyre, Daoud Daoud, said the militia the same day had arrested two men who took part in the kidnapping and a third carrying a message to Higgins's captors to move him from South Lebanon, where he was abducted, to Beirut.

A Muslim security source told Reuters the message was sent by

a pro-Iranian clergyman in Beirut but refused to name him.

U.N. Undersecretary-General Marrack Goulding arrived at the U.N. headquarters in the southern town of Naqoura Wednesday for talks on efforts to release Higgins, said U.N. spokesman Timur Goksel.

He told Reuters that Goulding, who arrived from Cairo, was holding talks with U.N. officers "to obtain information on the latest efforts to release Higgins."

Goksel, spokesman for the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), said Amal told UNIFIL of the arrest of the three but the U.N. did not ask to see the detainees "because they are in an area outside U.N. operations."

Amal militiamen have joined UNIFIL troops in the hunt for Higgins, said Goulding.

the 43-year-old Higgins and Daoud said the Shi'ite militia was trying to find the leader of the kidnappers.

"There are strong beliefs the leader has escaped to Beirut," one security source said.

An Amal source in Tyre said the militia had positive signs Higgins could be freed.

Higgins's kidnapping has brought into the open an old feud between Amal and the pro-Iranian Hezbollah (Party of God).

Hizbullah denies reports it holds some of the 28 foreigners missing, believed kidnapped in Lebanon.

However, it defended demands by the "Organisation of the Oppressed of the World" which said it was holding Higgins and accused him of being a spy.

The group demanded the release of Palestinians and Lebanese held by Israel, an Israeli withdrawal from South Lebanon and an end to what it termed American interference in the country.

War risks recede in Kuwait

KUWAIT (Agencies) — Kuwait celebrates 27 years of independence Thursday amid a rare winter quiet on the nearby Iran-Iraq warfront.

Diplomats and officials say the small and vulnerable emirate has found comfort in the foreign naval presence in the Gulf, diminished attacks on its shipping this year and Iran's apparent decision to call off a winter offensive this year.

"The heat is off, at least for the moment. Kuwait is breathing easier now than it has for some time," said a senior Western diplomat.

Kuwait, which backs Iraq in the conflict, asked big power warships last year to protect its tankers in the Gulf from Iranian attack. It put 11 of its tankers under the American flag and three under British colours.

The proliferation of warships from seven countries that resulted has contained, but not eliminated, hit-and-run strikes by Iranian gunboats.

Shipping sources say that of 13 Iranian attacks on neutral shipping this year, only two hit ships bound to or from Kuwait.

By contrast, one-third of Iran's 31 attacks on Gulf shipping in the last quarter of 1987 were Kuwait-linked. No Kuwaiti-owned vessel has been attacked since November.

Silk worm missile attacks, blamed on Iran, from Iraq's occupied Fao peninsula 80 kilometres away stopped early last December when one hit a decoy barge off the Kuwaiti coast.

Kuwaiti officials express confidence that Iran will not make significant gains in the ground war this year. In previous winters, Iranian troops attacked towards Iraq's second city of Basra, near the Kuwaiti border.

A recurring fear in Kuwait, whose army numbers only 12,000 men, is that superior Iranian troops might cross over its northern desert to attack Basra from the West. This threat has become more remote, officials and diplomats say.

But the diplomats cautioned that Kuwait remains threatened by an overspill of the war as long as the conflict continues.

Israeli soldiers break into homes and snatch victims to bury alive

KHAN YUNIS

Occupied Gaza Strip (AP) — Adel Ali Massoud

said Tuesday that when soldiers

took him to the Mediterranean

beach near here, beat him and

buried him in the sand, they told

him: "Don't think you are going

to return alive."

The 18-year-old youth and a Gaza lawyer want to take the army to court over the brutality.

Massoud says was inflicted on him, the second such incident reported this month.

The Israeli army says it is investigating both.

"They took me to the beach"

about two kilometres away, he said. "They attached me to a jeep

and dragged me behind it through

the sand and the water."

Massoud said he saw another

youth on the beach, whom he

identified as Saleh Hamad, re-

ceiving the same treatment.

"They put sand in my mouth

and covered me with sand, then

they covered me up, using their

hands."

The youth said he did not know

how deeply he was buried, but

that the weight on his chest was

very heavy and he lost conscious-

"The next thing I remember, I

was in the hospital."

Lying under a blanket on a thin

matress spread out on the floor

of this spare home in the Khan

Yunis Refugee Camp, the young

Palestinian recounted how

Israeli soldiers burst into his

home at 4 a.m. Feb. 14 for

reasons not entirely clear to him.

"They used ladders to climb

over the wall" into the tiny court-

yard in front of the house, said

Massoud.

As family members and neigh-

bourhood, a maze of wind-

ing, narrow alleyways and bare-

boned houses. They were looking

for teen-aged boys, she said, but

Adel was the only one in the

area.

Families living near the beach

rescued Massoud after soldiers

buried him in the sand and left.

"Of course I'm angry," he said.

"This is not way to treat people. They told me on the road, on the

way to the beach, 'don't think

you are going to return alive.'

On Feb. 5, soldiers grabbed four Palestinian youths and covered them up with a bulldozer in the village of Kfar Salem, near Nablus, 65 kilometres north of Jerusalem. The army detained two soldiers in the case, but the investigation is still pending.

Pressing charges

Massoud has signed a sworn affidavit before the Lawyers Association of Gaza.

Gaza Attorney Mohammad Abu Shaaban wants to press the case in the supreme court in Jerusalem.

"I think we will have some problems because he and his family will be afraid," Shaaban said. "The military police have threatened people in other cases."

U.S. judge rejects confession of alleged hijacker

WASHINGTON (R) — A federal judge threw out the confession of an accused Lebanese hijacker Tuesday, ruling that FBI agents acted improperly during his four-day interrogation in the Mediterranean Sea.

U.S. District Judge Barrington Parker dealt a major setback to the government's case against Fawaz Younis, the accused mastermind of the 1985 hijacking of a Jordanian airliner.

The U.S. Congress has passed a law ordering the observer mission closed by March 22, despite a 1947 treaty in which the United States agreed to let official U.N. delegations function.

U.N. discusses PLO mission closure Monday

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The General Assembly will convene Monday to consider the dispute between the United States and the United Nations over the fate of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) mission, U.N. officials said Tuesday.

The U.S. Congress has passed a law ordering the observer mission closed by March 22, despite a 1947 treaty in which the United States agreed to let official U.N. delegations function.

But Attorney General Edwin Meese III reportedly has said he intends to enforce the measure.

Witness: Mediator may have helped in Beirut abduction

MABROUM has repeatedly denied having any connection to the January 1987 kidnappings. He lived in West Germany for several years, but returned to Lebanon last year.

Ms. Klein also said that, if Mabroum were involved, it would only have been for money.

The West German government arranged for Mabroum to act as a middleman with the captors of Rudolf Cordes and Alfred Schmidt after they were kidnapped in January 1987 in Beirut.

But the diplomats cautioned that Kuwait remains threatened by an overspill of the war as long as the conflict continues.

Whether Meese knew of a possi-

bility of improper payment, Peres has denied any wrongdoing.

The offer for the oil discount was relayed to Peres by Israeli-born Swiss oilman Bruce Rappaport, a partner in the proposed pipeline and a longtime Peres friend, the Foreign Ministry official said.

"Peres didn't take the offer seriously. For him, the most important thing was to have an Iraqi oil port near Israel's border," the official said. "The thinking was that this would put Iraq in a position that it would not be able to wage war with Israel, out of concern for its pipeline."

U.S. firm offered Peres deal for promise not to attack oil pipeline

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — The Bechtel Corp. offered in 1985 to sell Israel oil at reduced rates for 10 years in return for a pledge not to attack a planned Iraqi pipeline, a senior Foreign Ministry official revealed Wednesday.

The offer, made to then-Prime Minister Shimon Peres, would have resulted in an annual savings of \$65 to \$70 million.

But Peres did not take it seriously and never raised the issue with other government ministers, the official told the Associated Press.

"This is a man who sees 10 people every day. Thirty per cent of them come with crazy ideas," the official said on condition of

anonymity. "He just says 'Yes, Yes. We'll think about it.' That's how things work in Israel."

Peres, now Israel's foreign minister, headed the government when Attorney General Edwin Meese III received a memo from a close friend, E. Robert Wallich, referring to Israel's commitment not to bomb a proposed \$1 billion Iraqi oil pipeline.

In return, according to the Wallich memo, a portion of the money from the project was to be funnelled to the Labour Party.

The pipeline, which would

have run from Iraq through Jordan, was never built. But the memo has become the focal point of a criminal investigation into

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran

15:35 Children's programme

15:40 Children's programme

15:45 Children's programme

15:45 Arabic series

15:50 Arabic series

15:55 Arabic series

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

Chairman of the Board of Directors:

MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Responsible Editor and Director General:

MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:

RAMI G. KHOURI

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation,
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171-6, 670141-4, 666265-2

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Faximile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

Looking beyond Shultz's visit

WHILE much of the focus of interest in the Arab World in the Mideast trip of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has examined possible new American attitudes to peace-making, we feel that a more likely opportunity for change may lie within the Israeli political structure. The American position, however good or bad we may judge it to be, will almost invariably reflect an American power structure and national decision-making process that gets its impulses more from Israel than from the Arab World. The slight but real change that has been registered in the American position, particularly about the international conference proposal, has come in the wake of a combination of Arab persistence and an increasing willingness by Israeli leaders of the Labour-leftist persuasion to consider the proposal.

There is some political ferment taking place within Israel, characterised by a real debate about how Israel should deal with the current Palestinian uprising, and how Israel should envisage the ultimate political status of the Palestinians and their land. Mr. Shultz's visit, in itself, is not the key factor to ponder today; the key factor is how far his trip and his ideas are symptomatic of a changed political atmosphere in the United States and in Israel. There is debate in Israel about the possibility of withdrawal from the occupied territories and about how to engage the Palestinians and the concerned Arab states in a meaningful negotiation. It is in our interest to promote this debate, and to make it more clear to reasonable Israelis that negotiations can indeed lead to the twin aims of Israeli security and Arab national rights. Both the Labour and Likud factions of the Israeli government have suggested the break-up of the coalition in order to decide on the future path of peace-making. It would be useful to find out if a majority of Israelis have learned from the Palestinian uprising that Israeli-Palestinian peace and justice can be achieved through genuine negotiations, based on the premise that both people have identical national rights. An election in Israel is one way to find out — assuming that the Labour-leftist end of the political spectrum in Israel would make this a major issue of the campaign. The facts, to date, do not suggest that this is likely to happen, as the Labour camp has traditionally shied away from taking this big issue directly to the voters in Israel. The Arabs can and should help this process along.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Jordan welcomes peace efforts

JORDAN has always welcomed efforts, by any party, in search for a comprehensive settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict, a settlement that must be based on granting the Palestinian people their national rights including the right to self-determination. It is an established fact that the Middle East conflict was triggered by the Israeli invasion of the Arab land and will continue so long as the Israelis maintain their occupational policies. Based on this position, Jordan will deal with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz in his current tour of the region and with ideas and proposals he is carrying, ideas that are essential to reactivate the stalled peace process in the Middle East. Jordan and the rest of Arab countries have already made up their mind vis-à-vis the American new proposals. Their position has remained that all political efforts which do not boil down to convening an international Middle East peace will reach a fiasco, as did other previous efforts. Amman's welcome of Shultz's visit reflects the Kingdom's confidence that the U.S. could play an essential role in the search for peace in the region should it bear its responsibility as a superpower and should it agree that the basis for peace should be based on international legitimacy.

Al Dustour: Arabs to adopt joint stand

ON the eve of a visit to the Middle East by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, the Arab countries have adopted a joint stand which reflects the Arab Nation's views about the Middle East question and an end to the Arab-Israeli conflict. The Arabs are in total agreement that a U.N.-sponsored international conference should be held and that all concerned parties and the U.N. Security Council members should be involved in such a conference for the sake of achieving a lasting peace in the area. The Arabs are serious and determined to achieve a durable and comprehensive peace; that means that they refuse any partial solutions or autonomy rule as advocated by Israel and provided for by the Camp David accords. The Arabs are agreed on the question of swapping land for peace within the context of Security Council Resolution 242 which can guarantee a total Israeli withdrawal from Arab land occupied since 1967. Had the Arabs not convened their summit meeting last November, they would not have arrived at this concerted stand and a total consensus and agreement on future steps.

Sawt Al Shaab: New ideas needed

AMMAN, which hosted the November Arab summit and adhered to its historical resolutions, believes that the success of any peace efforts in the region should be based on a genuine desire to convene an international peace conference under the auspices of the United Nations. Such a conference should be attended by the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council and all parties involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict. Against this backdrop of political realities, the United States current peace proposal, commendable as it is by the international community including the Soviet Union, should carry to the region new ideas based on the new circumstances in the region. The path to peace, as viewed by the Amman Arab summit, should pass through an international conference. This line was echoed many times by Egypt and recently its foreign minister reiterated that Cairo remained "opposed to any new proposals based on the Camp David treaties." Jordan, for its part, welcomes Shultz's current tour of the Middle East in order to make various standpoints to interact positively towards peace. Observers' belief that the U.S. secretary of state's mission is a very difficult one and will further remain so as long as the American administration's regional perspective remained biased to the Israeli side.

Minimum wage revisited

By Nayef S. Zubi

THE FOLKLORE about the economic profession suggests that economists do not agree on anything. This is obviously a misconception. The apparent disagreement among economists only reflects the intricate nature of economic problems, and the difficulty of putting one's economic propositions into a final test, in a controlled experiment setting. The notion that economics is not an exact science the way physics is arises from the latter difficulty.

One area where a broad agreement among economists exists relates to the economic consequences of enacting minimum wage laws, or in general the impact of wage and price controls. Economists agree that the government should be out of the business of setting wages and prices. Prices and wages should be settled in the marketplace.

The recent article of Dr. Fahd Fanek (Jordan Times, Dec. 20, 1987) on minimum wage is important in two respects. One, it contains a sensible economic analysis, and shows that good economists — the rarest among birds as Keynes once noted — need not ride the tide of cheap popularity at the expense of their fundamental beliefs. Another, it proves, as my subsequent remarks will indicate, that agreement among economists does exist.

My general inclination to oppose the expansion of the functions of existing government agencies, or creating new agencies, arises from that the end result will be expanding an existing bureaucracy, and not expanding economic opportunities. The creation of new government offices to oversee the wage and price controls is no exception. Also, to circumvent new laws and regulations, legions of accountants and lawyers will be needed. The end beneficiaries will be those lawyers and accountants. The history of wage and price control starting from the Roman emperor Diocletian and ending with President Nixon's 1971 episode is dismal. Proponents of such policies do not have much to show or tell in a positive sense.

It would be a sheer fantasy to believe that enacting minimum wage laws or re-activating one that already exists would solve the

unemployment problem. Putting on hold the very purpose of a price — wage is a price of a labour service — that is providing informational efficiency required for proper allocation of resources, and for proper distribution of income, is counterproductive. It is a recipe for waste. Whenever the powers of the price and wage determination are transferred to the government from their natural determinants — the markets — the potential for abuse is unlimited. The threat to individual liberty regardless of all tears shedding on the lot of those unfortunate among us will materialise. Enacting minimum wage laws is a glaring example of a legislation without representation.

It is not difficult to understand that the demand for labour services is less the higher is the price, assuming that the minimum wage is on the upper side of the wage range, which I suppose to be the rationale of those crying for its enactment. The long-term effects will be less employment of those labour categories, the law is enacted to help. It is only logical to expect that firms will substitute inferior but relatively cheaper goods and services in place of high priced ones. Firms will at the enacted minimum wage employ relatively more skilled labour. Deserving workers will be promoted out of lower-paying job categories into higher paying ones to avoid wage controls. The shift from labour to other non-labour substitutes could be triggered at some levels of enacted wages.

A teenager with little or no training at all, ill-prepared for his or her first job, will be the victim of the minimum wage law. People with no prerequisite skills usually have their first training on their first job. Their services are simply not worth much. They are not Harvard MBA's. The minimum wage law will only single them out from getting their first job. Once they are unemployed for a while, they become unemployable. Once they are unemployable, they develop hostile attitudes that are hard to change.

The minimum wage law in effect requires that a teenager whose services are valued at say JD 100 per month, to remain unemployed

at unattainable wage of say JD 150 per month, rather than being employed at JD 100 — the right price for his services. In effect, the law also asks firms to give away a charity of JD 50 per month to employ that person. Business cannot survive if they base their decisions on charity. They do if their decisions are guided by profit motives. They can survive if they are cost effective.

In the United States, unemployment is hitting the hardest those the minimum wage laws were enacted to help: Minorities, the disadvantaged and teenagers. In fact, the law deserves to be called "The Black Teenager Unemployment Act." The minimum wage level has been on the rise in the U.S., and so has been the unemployment level among the low-skilled, especially the black teenagers. At the close of World War II the minimum wage was 40 cents per hour. It increased to 75 cents per hour and \$1.00 per hour in 1950, and 1959, respectively. In the late 1970's it reached \$2.9 per hour, and now it is \$3.35 per hour. The teenage unemployment rate, while 10 per cent in the 1950's, is now well above 30 per cent. Plotting the unemployment levels with minimum wage levels brings home the disturbing facts about minimum wage laws. It is a discrimination law against low-skilled workers regardless of all good intentions.

One might have a difficult time determining the most relevant price to him. His own wage rate, let alone determining the price of a wide range of goods and services. But, that later determination is what we are asking government agencies to produce. We already have controls that we do not know what to do about. Less controls is what we need. As President Woodrow Wilson once noted, "liberty has never come from the government. The history of liberty is the history of the limitations of government power, not the increase of it." Dr. Fanek's advice to the government to refrain from enacting minimum wage laws is a judicious call for economic liberty. It definitely has my support.

U.S. primary objective in Mideast region: Support friendly states to counter Soviet 'threat'

Following are excerpts from U.S. Secretary of Defence Frank Carlucci's description of his country's defence strategy for the Middle East and Southwest Asia regions submitted to the Congress February 18 by the Defence Department.

The Middle East/Southwest Asia Balance

THE oil wealth of the Middle East/Southwest Asia region, its political instability, and its proximity to the Soviet Union make it a target of Soviet aggression — both ongoing (as in Afghanistan) and potential. Additionally, Iranian terrorism, Tehran's indiscriminate bombing of the Gulf and its approaches, and continued Iranian attacks on non-belligerent shipping in the Gulf also represent threats to U.S. interests. Our primary objective is to support the independence of friendly states in the region by assisting their military forces and developing capabilities of our own that would make any Soviet aggression costly, risky, and unsuccessful. The Soviets maintain significant ground and tactical air forces in their military districts contiguous to the region and are actively enhancing support bases for their naval presence in the Indian Ocean. Soviet forces occupying Afghanistan are continuing their efforts to subjugate the Afghan people. At the same time, they represent over 115,000 combat-ready troops forward-deployed in Southwest Asia.

The Soviet Union's proximity to the Gulf region provides it with a significant military advantage, although it is somewhat offset by the determination of the region's states to maintain their independence as well as by the region's extremely difficult terrain. The Soviets would have to sustain long lines of communication in attempting to seize the Gulf's oil-producing facilities. These communication lines would be vulnerable to air and unconventional ground interdiction; in addition, they would require a large occupying force to ensure local security.

As in the East Asian theatre, local military balances play an important role in arriving at an overall regional assessment. In the Iran-Iraq war, the Iranian manpower advantage continues to offset Iraqi predominance in force structure, most particularly in armour and tactical air weapons systems. The result has been a stalemate reminiscent of the Western Front in World War I, in which neither side has been able to gain the upper hand.

With Soviet assistance, Syria is continuing to upgrade its military forces with Soviet-supplied fourth-generation fighter aircraft and other advanced weapons systems. Syria's recognition of its disastrous economic situation, however, has forced a consolidation of ground force units and has resulted in an overall decreased military threat to Israel. The Israeli military modernisation programme is also facing harsh fiscal realities, however, requiring Israel to make difficult decisions regarding development and purchase of new weapons systems, as in the case of the recently cancelled Lavi tactical fighter. At present, Israel maintains clear advantages in readiness, command and control, and tactical air operations that should provide for its continued security.

India, China and Pakistan are the major military powers in South Asia, and open conflict between India and Pakistan as a result of long-standing differences is always a possibility. India has force structure advantages over Pakistan, and both countries continue modernising their military forces. India has successfully tested a nuclear device, and Pakistan may be developing the ability to do so.

The military balance between India and the Peoples Republic of China (PRC), in which India's advantage in armour is countered by a Chinese advantage in manpower, is greatly affected by the exceedingly hostile geography and climate along their common border which would impose severe limits on both operations and logistics.

We have improved our capability for projecting military forces to the region. Our U.S. Central Command develops specific plans and operational concepts focused on the region. Its potential force allocation comprises more than six ground divisions and over 600 tactical aircraft. To test these forces and concepts, we have conducted a number of successful exercises with friendly regional states, and our recent convoy/escort and mine-countermeasure operations in the Gulf are providing us with greater familiarity with regional operations. On balance, our improved capability to project significant forces rapidly to the region helps to deter Soviet aggression. Should deterrence fail, we can successfully defend the region with substantially fewer ground forces than the Soviets require to seize and occupy it, provided our forces are strongly supported by tactical air. Such a defence would depend heavily on participation and support by friends and allies in the region.

Collective Security: The Near East, South Asia, and North Africa

Interests, Challenges, and Risks

The United States has critical security interests in these regions that have spawned the following objectives: Deterring Soviet aggression; denying the Soviet access or influence in the region that might compromise the free world's access to energy resources; assuring the stability and security of friendly states, especially those strategically positioned relative to oil resources; inhibiting escalation or the spread of armed conflicts; and reaching a just, peaceful, and enduring settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The United States is facing serious challenges to its interests throughout these regions. Armed conflict in the Western Sahara, Libyan aggression in Chad, the Iran-Iraq war, Iranian disregard to freedom of navigation in the international waters of the Gulf, the continued Soviet occupation of Afghanistan, and border clashes between South Yemen and Oman are jeopardising political and economic stability.

The most immediate threat to U.S. interests, however, remains Iran's intransigence in ending its war with Iraq, its determination to export terrorism, and its efforts to spread Islamic fundamentalism through force or intimidation in the Gulf states and elsewhere.

To counter this threat and safeguard our interests, President Reagan has approved a three-pronged strategy. One element involves vigorous U.S. diplomatic efforts to halt arms sales to Iran and end the Iran-Iraq war, as well as to reduce other regional tensions. The second element involves our support for the moderate Arab states, including escorting U.S.-flag vessels in the Gulf. The third element involves a halting of all U.S. imports from Iran. There are risks involved in this strategy, but we remain convinced that the risks of alternative courses of action are even greater. There is no risk-free way to protect our vital interests. Our best course is to minimise and manage those risks and to chart a steady course aimed at ending the war and communicating to our

Military Capabilities

Geographic military responsibility for the region is shared by three commanders in chief. The European Command, responsible for most Mediterranean littoral countries; Central Command, responsible for Southwest Asia; and Pacific Command, responsible for the South Asian countries. Following our decision to reflag 11 Kuwaiti tankers and provide them protection in the Gulf, we created the Joint Task Force Middle East (JTTFME) to provide essential command and control for our increased naval presence, which includes the U.S. Middle East Force (MIDEASTFOR) that has been stationed in the Gulf for nearly 40 years.

Adequate levels of general purpose forces are available in the event of a regional crisis. Clearly, however, a timely and effective U.S. response to military threats will hinge on non-treaty relationships with friendly states for rapid force deployment and resupply, access to local facilities and support, and assistance from local military forces.

Regional Cooperation

North Africa — The United States has longstanding security relationships with Morocco and Tunisia. We maintain close contact with both countries as we seek to strengthen their military capabilities through equipment purchases and training, and as we negotiate for expanding access and transit rights for our forces during crises.

Near East — Our ability to respond to crises in the Eastern Mediterranean and Southwest Asia has increased during the past year, in part through our extensive security assistance relationship with Egypt and Israel. We are expanding bilateral joint military exercises with each country, negotiating prepositioning arrangements, and revitalising defence industrial cooperation. Small numbers of U.S. personnel are also contributing directly to preserving peace in the Near East by serving as members of the Multinational Force and Observers in the Sinai, and with United Nations Truce Supervision Organisation contingents in Egypt, Lebanon, and Syria.

The Gulf — Our protection of U.S.-flag vessels to assure freedom of navigation in the Gulf requires extensive host nation support. For example, Saudi Arabia supported deployment of U.S. AWACS aircraft since 1980 and has provided fighter support for our missions in Saudi airspace. During the Stark incident, the Saudis scrambled F-15s to protect AWACS aircraft and their oil facilities, assisted in our search and rescue efforts, and readied their military hospital to receive our casualties. Kuwait has offered free fuel, as well as maintenance support, for MIDEASTFOR ships escorting reflagged tankers. Bahrain has leased us facilities for an administrative support unit, and provided extensive support to our naval presence in the Gulf (MIDEASTFOR), principally through port visits, maintenance facilities, and commercial refuelling. Oman, the only Middle East country with which we have formal access agreement, conducts combined exercises with U.S. forces and provides support for our Indian Ocean naval forces.

Strauss seems set to remain in power in Munich, ruling his Alpine state from the palace once occupied by Bavaria's former royal dynasty, which abdicated in 1918. For his supporters at Passau, it is a welcome prospect. "I'll come here (to the Ash Wednesday rally) even when he's dead to show that his work has not been in vain" said one.

For the foreseeable future,



Franz Josef Strauss

Strauss dominates Bavaria, infuriates the left

By Katerina Syrini
Reuter

PASSAU, West Germany — For three hours, West Germany's most controversial politician held forth, giving his 7,000-strong audience his usual mixture of blunt speaking, folksy wisdom and right-wing views.

Bavarian Premier Franz Josef Strauss was among his own and at the end they yelled for more.

The occasion was a rally of his Christian Social Union (CSU), held each Ash Wednesday for the past 35 years in this southern German town, where Strauss demonstrated he had lost none of his ability to arouse hero worship among his supporters, embarrass his political allies and horrify his opponents.

President P.W. Botha gave Strauss a warm welcome in Cape Town but South African black nationalists refused to meet him.

West Germany's opposition parties said Strauss's 10-day trip, undertaken to brief Chancellor Helmut Kohl on the problems of the region, had served only to bolster South Africa's isolated white-dominated government.

Views on issues such as South Africa that have made Strauss the bogeyman of the West German left for many years were received in Passau to rapturous applause last week.

"I've come to hear Strauss because he's a strong politician, he always keeps his word and he tells people what he thinks," said Hans Schumacher, one of many members of the Liberal Free Democrats, who together

with Kohl's Christian Democrats (CDU) and the CSU form an uneasy and often quarrelsome federal coalition.

If any of the Passau audience harboured doubts about the wisdom of the trip, they kept silent.

Many were dressed in traditional *lederhosen* (short leather trousers) and hats decorated with feathers, and consumed considerable quantities of Bavarian beer as their leader spoke.

Outside the hall, hawkers did a roaring trade in books by and about Strauss, and even pens bearing the portrait of Bavaria's favourite son.

Strauss was typically unrepentant about the South African trip and indicated that he would continue his often unorthodox foreign policy.

Anti-Communist in Albania

In the past this private diplomacy has taken the staunchly



Yasni, the 4-year-old Palestinian girl who was scolded by an Israeli soldier is being visited by British Labour Party leader Neil Kinnock last week.

Every generation involved

The following article by Marie Colvin is reprinted from the Feb. 21 issue of *The Sunday Times*.

THE West Bank village of Bani Na'im echoed to the sound of Israeli gunfire as protest again flared in the occupied territories. Elsewhere on the West Bank a Palestinian youth was shot dead by Israeli soldiers.

Israeli troops opened fire in Bani Na'im without warning as youths hurled stones at them. Hospitals reported that two boys had been badly injured, one shot through a lung and another through the liver. A third was hit but not badly hurt.

When I arrived in the village a short while before the shooting, the first sign of violence was black smoke billowing from a flaming barricade of tyres and the screams and loud pops of tear gas canisters being fired.

The entire village seemed to be taking part in the incident as its inhabitants held the hills above Bani Na'im, hiding behind stone walls and houses and throwing stones at the soldiers.

Teenage boys on the roof of a house hurled rocks at the patrol

below while middle-aged women dressed in the traditional Palestinian long embroidered dresses and white head scarves ran back and forth handing them more missiles as ammunition.

As they gathered rocks, the women, who looked to be aged between 40 and 50, would sometimes stop and themselves throw a stone in the direction of the soldiers. An old man with a *keffiyeh* headscarf and a shabby suit jacket stood unprotected with a sling. He too heaved stones in the direction of the soldiers below. They flew only about 50 feet away but he seemed unperturbed.

After about 15 minutes, the soldiers fired tear gas directly at this group. The youths jumped from the roof and the women handed them onions, cut open as an antidote to the gas, and buckets of water to drench their faces. One older woman was overcome and dragged out of harm's way.

As this group was driven back, a group of about 40, mostly boys, came through the trees at the soldiers from houses 50 yards farther up the road. Another 20 or so boys stood their ground on

the road, heaving stones at the soldiers without any protection.

Villagers moved forward again from all sides. The soldiers retreated.

The villagers were led by about 20 teenage youths and girls yelling to each other "yellab, slob" or "let's go, kids". The older women followed them, clapping and yelling to each other "God is great."

Then a helicopter hovered low, and the patrol opened fire.

Women began screaming and one pulled me down next to her in the courtyard of the mosque. She pushed herself up against the wall, wrapping her white veil around her knees and yelling with fear and elation.

The teenage leaders dived for the ground. The barrage continued uninterrupted for about 10 minutes, some in bursts of automatic weapons fire and some single shots. There was panic and screaming.

Two youths, struggling with the weight of an injured friend, headed up the hill from the direction of the patrol. They reached the mosque courtyard and laid him on his back.

One of the older women ripped open his shirt and started pounding his chest. His eyes cleared and they felt him all over to see whether he had been hit. He could not talk from shock, but when a strong youth hefted him onto his back, fresh blood seeped through the shirt. Two other boys picked up his legs and ran him into the village away from danger.

The villagers retreated. The soldiers pulled back up the road and a tense calm set in.

Then an elderly man came up, holding out his hands wet with fresh blood. He said he had helped one boy and three more had been injured. Every generation in the village had been involved.

A crowd gathered around, with the panic subsiding now that the patrol had gone. Two girls were pushed forward because they spoke English. One said: "You must tell the world, we want to be free in our land. We want our freedom very very much."

Villagers who spoke no English emphasised to her in Arabic what they wanted her to say.

Continuous excavation

Since the first concentrated excavations in the late 1920s and early 1930s at Gerasa, as Jerash was known by the ancients, archaeological activity has continued steadily.

The Jordan Department of Antiquities has been supervising the restoration of tumbled blocks of masonry and column drums to their original places with dramatic effect, as a glance at rare 19th-century photographs will prove.

Intricate mosaic paving has been uncovered in the floors of the numerous Byzantine churches

dating back to the fourth and fifth centuries. More recently, a whole residential quarter from the Umayyad period of early Islam has been brought to light.

They provide a wealth of detail in portable form. Anyone who has struggled from one patch of shadow to the next in the heat of mid-morning at Petra, ready to discard everything but the water-bottle, will appreciate the importance of the compact format.

For many years the chief reference book for the lay reader was G. Lankester Harding's *The Antiquities of Jordan*, first published in 1959.

Once the Director of Antiquities, Harding has not been parted from his lifelong passion even in death. In accordance with his wishes, he lies buried within the Roman walls at Jerash.

More recently, there appeared

Iain Browning's interestingly written books on Petra and Jerash.

Excellent as these books are, they are not for the hiker's pack.

By producing the two new guidebooks, Rami Khouri and Longman have done the traveller

— not to mention the Jordan archaeology buff — a much-needed service.

Editor of the *Jordan Times*, Rami Khouri has extensive knowledge of Jordan, past and present.

His articles on its antiquities and his beautiful photographs have appeared in many publications.

He also reports on Jordan's economic development and is the author of *The Jordan Valley: Life and Society below Sea Level*, an account of the agricultural development of the region, published in 1981 in association with the Jordan Valley Authority.

In preparing his guidebooks, Khouri has obviously spent much time exploring the two ancient cities himself. Retracing my path in Petra last June, for example, I find the directions precise and based on firsthand observation.

("After a few minutes, you pass a small stone beach to your left, underneath a big tree on the cliff-face.")

It is amusing to note how many points of interest we managed to walk right past in our ignorance. Now I hope for a fresh opportunity, soon, "seriously to explore

the world where everything is made of chocolate, ham, curry powder and salmon."

The bulk of the two books is, of course, a careful description of the archaeological remains.

Drawing on the work of specialists and scholars, Khouri presents the most up-to-date findings and evaluations.

He points out inscriptions and gives their meanings. Plentiful ground plans and line drawings enable the reader to visualise buildings in their original form.

By grouping the monuments geographically into well-defined clusters, Khouri gives his reader full control over how to proceed.

Instructions are clear and one may start at any point, working forwards or backwards.

Clearly these two guides to Jerash and Petra belong in every well-stocked bookstore... and on the shopping list of anyone planning a visit to Jordan. Both are published by Longman Group

Limited and reasonably priced at under seven pounds sterling.

*Inea Bushnaq was born in Jerusalem and now lives in New York. She is the author of the book, *Arab Folktales*, published in 1986 by Pantheon Books, and is currently working on a study of an Arab rural community. This article is reprinted from *Jordan magazine*.*

Obviously, there is no room for

Very informative and handy

By Inea Bushnaq

MANY YEARS ago, as a young college student home for the summer, I received a phone call asking whether I would accompany some official guests from Britain to the ruins at Jerash. At that time, the four-lane highway linking Jerash to Amman had yet to be built and there was no regular airconditioned JETT bus service: a trip to the ancient Roman provincial city was much more of an expedition than it is today. A bit of luck then, that of all the idle English speakers in Amman, the role of hostess should have fallen to me.

The foreign visitors proved to be the historian Arnold Toynbee and his wife. Two memories stand out from that day. First, the disappointment of finding myself, time and again, panting in the shade with Mrs. Toynbee, no match for the tireless, white-haired scholar who scampered over the fallen stones as lightly as a goat. And second, the satisfaction of hearing Toynbee say that he considered Jerash far more exciting even than Pompeii. I had not been to Italy and was gratified merely to hear, from the lips of authority and renown, that, indeed, the wonders of our little-trodden corner of the world were unique.

The foreign visitors proved to be the historian Arnold Toynbee and his wife. Two memories stand out from that day. First, the disappointment of finding myself, time and again, panting in the shade with Mrs. Toynbee, no match for the tireless, white-haired scholar who scampered over the fallen stones as lightly as a goat. And second, the satisfaction of hearing Toynbee say that he considered Jerash far more exciting even than Pompeii. I had not been to Italy and was gratified merely to hear, from the lips of authority and renown, that, indeed, the wonders of our little-trodden corner of the world were unique.

The foreign visitors proved to be the historian Arnold Toynbee and his wife. Two memories stand out from that day. First, the disappointment of finding myself, time and again, panting in the shade with Mrs. Toynbee, no match for the tireless, white-haired scholar who scampered over the fallen stones as lightly as a goat. And second, the satisfaction of hearing Toynbee say that he considered Jerash far more exciting even than Pompeii. I had not been to Italy and was gratified merely to hear, from the lips of authority and renown, that, indeed, the wonders of our little-trodden corner of the world were unique.

The foreign visitors proved to be the historian Arnold Toynbee and his wife. Two memories stand out from that day. First, the disappointment of finding myself, time and again, panting in the shade with Mrs. Toynbee, no match for the tireless, white-haired scholar who scampered over the fallen stones as lightly as a goat. And second, the satisfaction of hearing Toynbee say that he considered Jerash far more exciting even than Pompeii. I had not been to Italy and was gratified merely to hear, from the lips of authority and renown, that, indeed, the wonders of our little-trodden corner of the world were unique.

The foreign visitors proved to be the historian Arnold Toynbee and his wife. Two memories stand out from that day. First, the disappointment of finding myself, time and again, panting in the shade with Mrs. Toynbee, no match for the tireless, white-haired scholar who scampered over the fallen stones as lightly as a goat. And second, the satisfaction of hearing Toynbee say that he considered Jerash far more exciting even than Pompeii. I had not been to Italy and was gratified merely to hear, from the lips of authority and renown, that, indeed, the wonders of our little-trodden corner of the world were unique.

The foreign visitors proved to be the historian Arnold Toynbee and his wife. Two memories stand out from that day. First, the disappointment of finding myself, time and again, panting in the shade with Mrs. Toynbee, no match for the tireless, white-haired scholar who scampered over the fallen stones as lightly as a goat. And second, the satisfaction of hearing Toynbee say that he considered Jerash far more exciting even than Pompeii. I had not been to Italy and was gratified merely to hear, from the lips of authority and renown, that, indeed, the wonders of our little-trodden corner of the world were unique.

The foreign visitors proved to be the historian Arnold Toynbee and his wife. Two memories stand out from that day. First, the disappointment of finding myself, time and again, panting in the shade with Mrs. Toynbee, no match for the tireless, white-haired scholar who scampered over the fallen stones as lightly as a goat. And second, the satisfaction of hearing Toynbee say that he considered Jerash far more exciting even than Pompeii. I had not been to Italy and was gratified merely to hear, from the lips of authority and renown, that, indeed, the wonders of our little-trodden corner of the world were unique.

The foreign visitors proved to be the historian Arnold Toynbee and his wife. Two memories stand out from that day. First, the disappointment of finding myself, time and again, panting in the shade with Mrs. Toynbee, no match for the tireless, white-haired scholar who scampered over the fallen stones as lightly as a goat. And second, the satisfaction of hearing Toynbee say that he considered Jerash far more exciting even than Pompeii. I had not been to Italy and was gratified merely to hear, from the lips of authority and renown, that, indeed, the wonders of our little-trodden corner of the world were unique.

The foreign visitors proved to be the historian Arnold Toynbee and his wife. Two memories stand out from that day. First, the disappointment of finding myself, time and again, panting in the shade with Mrs. Toynbee, no match for the tireless, white-haired scholar who scampered over the fallen stones as lightly as a goat. And second, the satisfaction of hearing Toynbee say that he considered Jerash far more exciting even than Pompeii. I had not been to Italy and was gratified merely to hear, from the lips of authority and renown, that, indeed, the wonders of our little-trodden corner of the world were unique.

The foreign visitors proved to be the historian Arnold Toynbee and his wife. Two memories stand out from that day. First, the disappointment of finding myself, time and again, panting in the shade with Mrs. Toynbee, no match for the tireless, white-haired scholar who scampered over the fallen stones as lightly as a goat. And second, the satisfaction of hearing Toynbee say that he considered Jerash far more exciting even than Pompeii. I had not been to Italy and was gratified merely to hear, from the lips of authority and renown, that, indeed, the wonders of our little-trodden corner of the world were unique.

The foreign visitors proved to be the historian Arnold Toynbee and his wife. Two memories stand out from that day. First, the disappointment of finding myself, time and again, panting in the shade with Mrs. Toynbee, no match for the tireless, white-haired scholar who scampered over the fallen stones as lightly as a goat. And second, the satisfaction of hearing Toynbee say that he considered Jerash far more exciting even than Pompeii. I had not been to Italy and was gratified merely to hear, from the lips of authority and renown, that, indeed, the wonders of our little-trodden corner of the world were unique.

The foreign visitors proved to be the historian Arnold Toynbee and his wife. Two memories stand out from that day. First, the disappointment of finding myself, time and again, panting in the shade with Mrs. Toynbee, no match for the tireless, white-haired scholar who scampered over the fallen stones as lightly as a goat. And second, the satisfaction of hearing Toynbee say that he considered Jerash far more exciting even than Pompeii. I had not been to Italy and was gratified merely to hear, from the lips of authority and renown, that, indeed, the wonders of our little-trodden corner of the world were unique.

The foreign visitors proved to be the historian Arnold Toynbee and his wife. Two memories stand out from that day. First, the disappointment of finding myself, time and again, panting in the shade with Mrs. Toynbee, no match for the tireless, white-haired scholar who scampered over the fallen stones as lightly as a goat. And second, the satisfaction of hearing Toynbee say that he considered Jerash far more exciting even than Pompeii. I had not been to Italy and was gratified merely to hear, from the lips of authority and renown, that, indeed, the wonders of our little-trodden corner of the world were unique.

The foreign visitors proved to be the historian Arnold Toynbee and his wife. Two memories stand out from that day. First, the disappointment of finding myself, time and again, panting in the shade with Mrs. Toynbee, no match for the tireless, white-haired scholar who scampered over the fallen stones as lightly as a goat. And second, the satisfaction of hearing Toynbee say that he considered Jerash far more exciting even than Pompeii. I had not been to Italy and was gratified merely to hear, from the lips of authority and renown, that, indeed, the wonders of our little-trodden corner of the world were unique.

The foreign visitors proved to be the historian Arnold Toynbee and his wife. Two memories stand out from that day. First, the disappointment of finding myself, time and again, panting in the shade with Mrs. Toynbee, no match for the tireless, white-haired scholar who scampered over the fallen stones as lightly as a goat. And second, the satisfaction of hearing Toynbee say that he considered Jerash far more exciting even than Pompeii. I had not been to Italy and was gratified merely to hear, from the lips of authority and renown, that, indeed, the wonders of our little-trodden corner of the world were unique.

The foreign visitors proved to be the historian Arnold Toynbee and his wife. Two memories stand out from that day. First, the disappointment of finding myself, time and again, panting in the shade with Mrs. Toynbee, no match for the tireless, white-haired scholar who scampered over the fallen stones as lightly as a goat. And second, the satisfaction of hearing Toynbee say that he considered Jerash far more exciting even than Pompeii. I had not been to Italy and was gratified merely to hear, from the lips of authority and renown, that, indeed, the wonders of our little-trodden corner of the world were unique.

The foreign visitors proved to be the historian Arnold Toynbee and his wife. Two memories stand out from that day. First, the disappointment of finding myself, time and again, panting in the shade with Mrs. Toynbee, no match for the tireless, white-haired scholar who scampered over the fallen stones as lightly as a goat. And second, the satisfaction of hearing Toynbee say that he considered Jerash far more exciting even than Pompeii. I had not been to Italy and was gratified merely to hear, from the lips of authority and renown, that, indeed, the wonders of our little-trodden corner of the world were unique.

The foreign visitors proved to be the historian Arnold Toynbee and his wife. Two memories stand out from that day. First, the disappointment of finding myself, time and again, panting in the shade with Mrs. Toynbee, no match for the tireless, white-haired scholar who scampered over the fallen stones as lightly as a goat. And second, the satisfaction of hearing Toynbee say that he considered Jerash far more exciting even than Pompeii. I had not been to Italy and was gratified merely to hear, from the lips of authority and renown, that, indeed, the wonders of our little-trodden corner of the world were unique.

The foreign visitors proved to be the historian Arnold Toynbee and his wife. Two memories stand out from that day. First, the disappointment of finding myself, time and again, panting in the shade with Mrs. Toynbee, no match for the tireless, white-haired scholar who scampered over the fallen stones as lightly as a goat. And second, the satisfaction of hearing Toynbee say that he considered Jerash far more exciting even than Pompeii. I had not been to Italy and was gratified merely to hear, from the lips of authority and renown, that, indeed, the wonders of our little-trodden corner of the world were unique.

The foreign visitors proved to be the historian Arnold Toynbee and his wife. Two memories stand out from that day. First, the disappointment of finding myself, time and again, panting in the shade with Mrs. Toynbee, no match for the tireless, white-haired scholar who scampered over the fallen stones as lightly as a goat. And second, the satisfaction of hearing Toynbee say that he considered Jerash far more exciting even than Pompeii. I had not been to Italy and was gratified merely to hear, from the lips of authority and renown, that, indeed, the wonders of our little-trodden corner of the world were unique.

The foreign visitors proved to be the historian Arnold Toynbee and his wife. Two memories stand out from that day. First, the disappointment of finding myself, time and again, panting in the shade with Mrs. Toynbee, no match for the tireless, white-haired scholar who scampered over the fallen stones as lightly as a goat. And second, the satisfaction of hearing Toynbee say that he considered Jerash far more exciting even than Pompeii. I had not been to Italy and was gratified merely to hear, from the lips of authority and renown, that, indeed, the wonders of our little-trodden corner of the world were unique.

The foreign visitors proved to be the historian Arnold Toynbee and his wife. Two memories stand out from that day. First, the disappointment of finding myself, time and again, panting in the shade with Mrs. Toynbee, no match for the tireless, white-haired scholar who scampered over the fallen stones as lightly as a goat. And second, the satisfaction of hearing Toynbee say that he considered Jerash far more exciting even than Pompeii. I had not been to Italy and was gratified merely to hear, from the lips of authority and renown, that, indeed, the wonders of our little-trodden corner of the world were unique.

The foreign visitors proved to be the historian Arnold Toynbee and his wife. Two memories stand out from that day. First, the disappointment of finding myself, time and again, panting in the shade with Mrs. Toynbee, no match for the tireless, white-haired scholar who scampered over the fallen stones as lightly as a goat. And second, the satisfaction of hearing Toynbee say that he considered Jerash far more exciting even than Pompeii. I had not been to Italy and was gratified merely to hear, from the lips of authority and renown, that, indeed, the wonders of our little-trodden corner of the world were unique.

The foreign visitors proved to be the historian Arnold Toynbee and his wife. Two memories stand out from that day. First, the disappointment of finding myself, time and again, panting in the shade with Mrs. Toynbee, no match for the tireless, white-haired scholar who scampered over the fallen stones as lightly as a goat. And second, the satisfaction of hearing Toyn

Nykaenen, Roetsch fly and shoot their way into record books at Calgary

CALGARY (AP) — The "Flying Finn," once again soaring farthest off the ski jump, and an East German policeman who skis fast and shoots straight Tuesday became the first men ever to win both individual gold medals in their sports in one Olympics.

But East Germany's powerful women speed skaters failed to win a gold medal for the second straight race. Yvonne van Gennip of the Netherlands beat them with a world-record time Tuesday night in the 3,000 metres after Bonnie Blair did the same in the 500 Monday.

Soviet couples swept the top two places in the ice dancing, with three-time world champions Natalia Bestemianova and Andrei Bukin taking the gold and Marina Klimova and Sergei Ponomarenko the silver. Tracy Wilson and Robert McCall of Canada won the bronze.

The winners, skating to Borodin's "Polovetsian Dances," received three perfect 6.0 marks from the nine judges — but one 5.5 — for artistic impression, along with all 5.9s for technical merit.

Van Gennip, who had surgery on her foot less than three months ago, put on a burst of speed in the last lap and won in 4

minutes, 11.94 seconds, breaking the world record of 4:16.76 set by East Germany's Gabi Zange.

1988 WINTER OLYMPICS

Defending gold medallist Andrea Ehrlig of East Germany was second in 4:12.09 and Zange took the bronze in 4:16.92.

There was double happiness among the organisers, for the first time since the outdoor events began Feb. 14, there were no postponements for unfavourable weather Tuesday. And organisers said the long-range forecast favoured completion of all events by closing day next Sunday.

The two joined Sweden's Tomas Gustafson in the ranks of double gold medalists in these games. Gustafson won the 5,000- and 10,000-metre speed skating races, setting a world record in the 10,000.

The two joined Sweden's Tomas Gustafson in the ranks of double gold medalists in these games. Gustafson won the 5,000- and 10,000-metre speed skating races, setting a world record in the 10,000.

With Roetsch's victory and the Soviet victory in the ice dancing, the first-place Soviets stayed ahead of East Germany 8-7 in gold medals and 22-17 in total medals.

Kania falters

There was uncertainty, meanwhile, about a star who had been expected to win more medals for the East Germans. In the 3,000-metre speed skating, Karin Kania faltered with 600 metres left and finished fourth in 4:18.08.

After the race, Kania skated in

Medal Table

CALGARY (AP) — Total medals after events Tuesday, 10th full day of competition at the Winter Olympics:

| Nation | Gold | Silver | Bronze | Total |
|-------------------|------|--------|--------|-------|
| The Soviet Union | 8 | 8 | 6 | 22 |
| East Germany | 7 | 6 | 4 | 17 |
| Austria | 3 | 3 | 1 | 7 |
| Switzerland | 1 | 4 | 2 | 7 |
| Finland | 3 | 0 | 2 | 5 |
| The Netherlands | 1 | 2 | 2 | 5 |
| Sweden | 3 | 0 | 1 | 4 |
| The United States | 2 | 1 | 1 | 4 |
| Norway | 0 | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| Canada | 0 | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| West Germany | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| Czechoslovakia | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| France | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| Italy | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Japan | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Yugoslavia | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |



Matti Nykaenen shows why he is called the 'flying Finn.'



Michela Figini of Switzerland

cedented triple crown jumping. Elsewhere, West Germany, Austria and Norway duel for gold in the final of the Nordic combined team event, and the medal round of the Olympic hockey tournament opens with defending champion Soviet Union facing off against Canada, world champion Sweden taking on Czechoslovakia and Finland battling West Germany.

On the icy slopes of Mount Allan, 95 kilometres west of Calgary, Switzerland was depending on Vreni Schneider, Maria Waliser and Michela Figini to steal back Alpine Olympic glory from Austria, West Germany and France. Switzerland's three neighbours have seven alpine medals among them including, four golds.

With no golds in women's competition and only one in the men's, the disappointing and disappointed Swiss were rated a good chance to rebound in the women's giant slalom where they have shown strength in this season's world cup competition.

They will be challenged by a pair of French skiers, Catherine Quillet and Carole Merle, along with Yugoslavia's Mateja Svet, Austria's Anita Wachter, the combined gold medallist, and Blanca Fernandez Ochoa of Spain.

In Tuesday's 70-metre jumping portion of the team Nordic combined, West Germany took a narrow lead over Austria. But third-placed Norway could overtake the leaders with a strong showing in Wednesday's 3 x 10-kilometre cross-country relay finale.

"There's not a lot of boats around like the one we're racing," Conner told reporters. "It's unique. So we don't have anything to practice in. It would be like a golfer with no golf course," he said.

"The design is finished," he said. "We've got to go and build this boat now. We're working 24 hours a day."

Last November, a New York court upheld a challenge by Fay that will force the cup holders, the San Diego Yacht Club, to defend the trophy this year in 90-foot waterline boats. The yacht club had been planning a multi-national 1991 defence in the traditional, and far smaller, 12-metre yachts.

San Diego feels their catamaran will handily beat Fay's single-

JORDAN TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY FEBRUARY 25-26, 1988

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Pele to play in AIDS fund-raiser

TOKYO (AP) — Former star Pele and other soccer greats from years past will play an exhibition match in Tokyo in April to raise funds for combating AIDS, organisers said Wednesday. Besides Pele, from Brazil, Pat Jennings of Northern Ireland, Michel Platini of France, Johan Neeskens of The Netherlands, Trevor Brooking of England, Teofilo Cubillas of Peru, Paolo Rossi of Italy, Eusebio of Portugal, Allan Simonsen of Denmark, Oleg Blokhin of the Soviet Union and coach Carlos Bilardo of Argentina will face a Japanese team in Tokyo April 22, they said. The Japanese team will be led by Kunisige Kamamoto. The visitors' average age is 38.2 years while the Japanese squad will be 36.7 years old on the average, according to the organisers.

Troubled Coe begins Olympic bid

LONDON (R) — Double Olympic 1,500 metres champion Sebastian Coe will return to a British track after nearly a year's absence when he competes for England in the annual indoor international against the United States next month. Coe, who is struggling to regain his form after an Achilles injury last season, will run over 3,000 metres at the March 12 meeting in Cosford as part of his preparation for the Seoul Olympics, the organisers said Wednesday. He will be anxious to improve on his first outing of 1988, a 3,000 metres race in Rutherford, New Jersey, in which he was lapped and failed to finish. Coe set a world indoor 800 metres record during the match against the Americans five years ago.

San Diego Yacht Club to field catamaran to defend America's Cup

NEW YORK (Agencies) — American skipper Dennis Conner said Tuesday his team was working against the clock to build a catamaran to defend the America's Cup against New Zealander Michael Fay's huge single-hulled boat.

Conner, in New York on a fund-raising tour, said a U.S. cigarette company was providing funds for two catamarans being shipped from France so that his crew could practice while the Sail America Foundation built the new boat.

"We are going with the catamaran with a crew of a half dozen against his (crew of) 40, so it's going to be bizarre," Conner said of the races which will likely be held off Long Beach, California — the 1984 Olympic yachting brazier.

"I don't think any sailors like what's going on. They like the idea of racing on the water in a fair competition," he said, referring to the probable September mismatch as "an oddball deal."

Conner, who headed the first U.S. losing effort in over 130 years of America's Cup competition in 1983 and won the cup back from Australia last year, said that when the court ruled in favour of Fay, Sail America asked for his help.

"The bottom line is that the America's Cup is in a crisis and it's not the American way to duck a crisis. We've got to respond to this sneak attack. This is my fifth America's Cup and I'll do what I can to keep it here," said the perpetually-tanned skipper.

THE Daily Crossword

| THE Daily Crossword | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|-----------|----------|--------|--------|-------------|------------|--------------|-----------|----------|-----|--------|
| by Harold B. Counts | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| Flowering shrub | Wrestling | Convex molding | Shredded | As | Horsties | — | Merit | Supplements | NBA member | Sticky stuff | BSWP word | Sch. gp. | Map | Turner |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| Egg on | Convex molding | Shredded | As | Horsties | — | — | Merit | Supplements | NBA member | Sticky stuff | BSWP word | Sch. gp. | Map | Turner |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| Convex | Shredded | As | Horsties | — | — | — | Merit | Supplements | NBA member | Sticky stuff | BSWP word | Sch. gp. | Map | Turner |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |
| Wrestling | As | — | — | — | — | — | Merit | Supplements | NBA member | Sticky stuff | BSWP word | Sch. gp. | Map | Turner |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| Convex | Shredded | As | — | — | — | — | Merit | Supplements | NBA member | Sticky stuff | BSWP word | Sch. gp. | Map | Turner |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| Shredded | As | — | — | — | — | — | Merit | Supplements | NBA member | Sticky stuff | BSWP word | Sch. gp. | Map | Turner |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| As | — | — | — | — | — | — | Merit | Supplements | NBA member | Sticky stuff | BSWP word | Sch. gp. | Map | Turner |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| Horsties | — | — | — | — | — | — | Merit | Supplements | NBA member | Sticky stuff | BSWP word | Sch. gp. | Map | Turner |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |
| — | — | — | — | — | — | — | Merit | Supplements | NBA member | Sticky stuff | BSWP word | Sch. gp. | Map | Turner |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 32 |
| — | — | — | — | — | — | — | Merit | Supplements | NBA member | Sticky stuff | BSWP word | Sch. gp. | Map | Turner |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 32 | 33 |
| Merit | Supplements | NBA member | Sticky stuff | BSWP word | Sch. gp. | Map | Turner | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 32 | 33 | 34 |
| Supplements | NBA member | Sticky stuff | BSWP word | Sch. gp. | Map | Turner | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 32 | 33 | 34 | 35 |
| BSWP word | Sch. gp. | Map | Turner | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 36 | 37 | 38 | 39 | 40 | 41 | 42 | 43 | 44 | 45 | 46 | 47</td | | | |

Dentists to give monthly financial backing to uprising

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordanian Dentists Association (JDA) has decided that all dentists should contribute the salary of one day a month for supporting the Palestinian people's uprising. The decision, taken by the JDA board which met under Chairman Walid Marqa, said that the contribution will continue as long as the uprising lasts.

The JDA had earlier raised an unspecified amount of contributions and sent them over to the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Municipalities plan to upgrade services

IRBID (Petra) — A budget of JD 90,000 has been allocated for the municipality of Kharja and Al Zawieh, according to Mayor Isam Alshara. The municipality has already floated a tender to asphalt around 25,000 square metres of the town's streets at the cost of JD 27,500.

In the Karak Governorate, Al Qasr municipality will spend JD 129,770 during 1988 on a number of development projects, according to a municipality official.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

AMMAN (J.T.) — Either investors were forced Wednesday to park their cars "anywhere in the streets" due to slippery roads or for being stranded in the snow or that some of them opted to stay in their warm homes leaving the trading activities for some other sunny day.

Overall trading was only 46,539 shares for a total volume of JD 83,866 spread over 82 contracts, of which 13, the highest number, was related to Universal Chemical Industries.

Jordan French Insurance recorded JD 19,990, the highest volume, while the highest number of shares traded, totaling 6,350, were those of National Shipping Lines.

The shares of 26 companies changed hands, but quite a few involved only low four figures in terms of number of shares or volume.

Prices were mostly steady. No trading in development bonds took place.

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1988

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

From the Carol Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Don't take any foolish risks. Focus your energy on the social aspects of life, as you will be unusually adept at pleasing the people around you today. Your sense of humor and charm are your most valuable assets.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Some special thought for your mate can bring you more affection and generally improve the atmosphere around your abode.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 20) A good friend can give you some ideas on how to improve your financial situation. This should be a very rewarding evening.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Invite some guests into your home. You can make some great improvements to your property at this time. Your memory is not up to par, will beautify your surroundings.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) This is a good day to indulge yourself with a rather frivolous pleasure.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) This is a good day to indulge yourself with a rather frivolous pleasure.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) This is a good day to indulge yourself with a rather frivolous pleasure.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) You can accomplish a great deal today if you get an early start and contact the proper people. Be sure to drive carefully.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) A pay some overdue visits to friends and relatives who may be feeling a bit depressed. Business interests could make some great improvements to your property at this time.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) An opportunity to greatly increase your income will be present today.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 21) If you need some information to prove your point, be sure to take advantage of it.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) You can accomplish a great deal today if you get an early start and contact the proper people. Be sure to drive carefully.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may be tempted to make a spiteful remark, but keep your temper and stay out of trouble. Use more than usual care while driving.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Avoid becoming involved in a risky financial scheme. Set up a new budget for yourself, and leave room for recreation and hobbies.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may feel a bit confused this morning, so work on gaining control of your surroundings. Be sure to avoid any arguments today.

Pretoria bans political activities of 17 groups

JOHANNESBURG (Agencies) — In one of its harshest crackdowns ever, the government Wednesday banned all political activities of the country's largest anti-apartheid organisation, the United Democratic Front (UDF), and 16 other groups.

The Pretoria government also ordered that the main black labour federation, the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU), limit its activities only to labour issues and stay out of politics.

"Many of our people will see it (the restrictions) as a declaration of war," said Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu, winner of the 1984 Nobel Peace Prize for his fight against apartheid.

"The government's idea of reform is to smash all effective possible political opposition in the country, no matter how peaceful and lawful, and to rule with a jackboot," Tutu said. He appealed to the United States and other Western countries to intensify economic pressure on South Africa.

The prime target of the new move is the UDF, formed four years ago to oppose a new constitution which allowed Indians and mixed-race coloureds into

parliament but left the black majority still excluded from national politics.

Multi-racial but predominantly black, the UDF claims three million members through about 700 affiliated groups.

Lawyers could not immediately determine whether the ban affected all affiliates or just those specifically named in Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok's list.

The restrictions, announced on a special government gazette, do not technically outlaw the UDF and the other groups, but effectively ban them by prohibiting them from carrying on any activities not approved by Vlok.

The Rev. Alton Boesak, a co-founder of the UDF, said the government has acted out of frustration because its tough tactics during a 20-month-old state of emergency had failed to quell militant opposition.

"It is not possible, really, to ban the UDF," he said by telephone.

Ortega proposes new talks

NICARAGUA (AP) — President Daniel Ortega has sent a strongly worded letter to Cardinal Miguel Obando Y. Bravo criticising what he called an abrupt end to ceasefire talks with the contra rebels, and proposing that another round start Friday.

"Taking into account what you have repeatedly said that each day that passes in Nicaragua 25 Nicaraguans die as a result of the war of aggression that our country suffers, the government views with consternation the suspension of the planned-meeting," the president said in his letter Tuesday.

Obando Y. Bravo said he took issue with parts of the president's letter and was looking into whether talks could be held later this week.

"I am not a military man disposed to take orders nor a messenger that fulfills orders. I am a mediator," the cardinal told journalists Tuesday outside his offices.

Meanwhile, the Sandinista newspaper quoted a government official Tuesday as saying U.S. congressional approval of contra aid, even for basic foodstuffs, would violate a regional peace pact.

"Whatever aid of this type not only totally violates the peace plan but also stops being humanitarian the minute it goes to belligerent forces," Deputy Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Timoco said in an interview with Barricada, voice of the ruling Sandinista National Liberation Front.

"Whatever aid — rice and beans — for a force that is making war is called military logistics in whatever language you speak," Timoco said.

The U.S. Congress is scheduled to vote Thursday on a 25-million compromise package of non-lethal aid to the rebels.

Italy tentatively agrees to take American jets forced out of Spain

WASHINGTON (R) — Italy's political leaders have agreed in principle to allow U.S. F-16 fighter planes that are being forced out of Spain to be based in Italy, a U.S. official said Tuesday.

The official, who returned with Secretary of State George Shultz from two days of talks with Soviet officials in Moscow, spoke on the condition that he not be identified.

He said the United States expected to negotiate a formal agreement with Italy on the F-16s within the next six months.

About 72 of the fighters are located at the U.S. air base at Torrejon near Madrid. But under a new defence agreement with Spain, which insisted the planes be removed from its territory, the air wing will be moved.

The United States and North

Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) had wanted to keep the wing in Spain, arguing that Torrejon was an important venue from which to defend the Western alliance's southern flank.

The U.S. official said Comiso, Sardinia and a location near Brindisi, which he could not recall were the alternate sites in Italy now being studied for re-basing the planes.

Certain improvements would likely have to be made at all the locations, including construction of a runway at Comiso and housing for military dependents at the other spots, he said.

The U.S. Congress has passed legislation prohibiting the United States from spending money to relocate the air wing, saying the cost should be borne by the Nato.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
1921: Theatrical Works Services, Inc.

LIGHTNER DOUBLE CAN BE COSTLY

North Vulnerable, North deals.

NORTH
+ Q 10 7 5 3

S

AK
+ A J 8 6 2

WEST
+ K 2
+ 8 4

9 7 6 4 2 K 10 8 3

8 6 4 J 9 7 5 3 2

+ 0 7 5 + Void

SOUTH
+ A J 9 6

: A Q

Q 10

+ K 0 10 4 3

The bidding:

North East South West

1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass

3 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass

6 ♠ Dbl 6 NT Pass

Pass Pass

Opening lead: Four of :

"If your opponents are sane, you don't expect to defeat a slam they had bid freely by more than a trick or two. Therefore, you won't get rich doubling for penalties. For this reason the late Theodore Lightner decided that the double could be used more profitably as a lead-director, usually of dummy's first-bid suit."

The convention has just one drawback: it warns the potential declarer that he is about to receive a possibly killing lead. That might al-

low him to take evasive action.

This hand was played in a team competition. At both tables South was about to become declarer at six spades. His jump to two spades on a four-card suit was based on his huge fit for his partner's suit, not necessarily from any desire to play in the major. While we watched, East chose to make a Lightner double. It did not take any great genius on South's part to realize East wanted to ruff a club, so South ran to six no trump. That contract proved to be unbearable, declarer losing only a trick to the king of spades.

We do not know why East chose not to double at the other table. We can only report on the striking success of his action, thanks to an assist from declarer. West led his fourth-best heart against six spades, and East followed with the three!

Oblivious to any danger, declarer crossed to the king of diamonds and tried the trump finesse. In with the king, West realized that East's play at trick one was begging for a shift. His not to reason why, but clubs was the only return that made any sense. His partner's ruff was an unexpected but delightful surprise.

The spokesman said the four occupants of the car, including Noriega's daughter, Sandra Noriega de Buchamps, refused to show identification and became "verbally abusive."

PANAMA CITY (R) — The daughter of Panamanian military leader General Manuel Antonio Noriega and her husband were stopped for speeding on a U.S. military base, handcuffed and held for an hour, a U.S. spokesman said Tuesday.

The incident took place the night before Panamanian police briefly detained 30 U.S. service-men around the city, accusing them of violating an agreement not to wear uniforms while riding motorcycles in the capital.

The U.S. spokesman declined to comment on whether there was any connection between the two incidents.

PDF spokesman were not available for comment.

Relations between Panama and the United States have steadily worsened since Noriega began being publicly accused last summer of involvement in drug trafficking and corruption. He is under two U.S. indictments on drug charges.

Armenians continue protests in Yerevan

MOSCOW (AP) — A former political prisoner said 200,000 demonstrators converged Wednesday in Armenia's capital city of Yerevan to demand an extraordinary meeting of the republic's parliament on a nationalist dispute.

The demonstration followed a recent decision of the Communist Party's Central Committee destroying Armenia's call for annexation of a region now controlled by the neighbouring Republic of Azerbaijan, activist Paruyr Ayrikyan told the AP in a phone call from Yerevan.

— The National Education Crisis Committee, which has sought to promote "people's education" in which black communities would exercise greater control over their schools.

— The Detainees Parents Support Committee, which monitors detentions and provides support for relatives of people detained without charge.

— The Soweto Civic Association, the main anti-apartheid community group in the country's largest black township and a key factor behind the rent boycott which has persisted there for nearly two years.

The protesters claim the issue is out of the party's jurisdiction, and that the Central Committee decision violates the constitution.

Ayrikyan said Armenian Communist Party chief Karen S. Demirchyan and other party officials had gone on local television and radio to ask for calm and to assure Armenians that the question was under consideration.

Outbreaks of ethnic tensions have occurred with increasing frequency over the past year as Soviets embrace party chief Mikhail S. Gorbachev's call for "glasnost," or more openness in tackling the nation's social problems.

In a TASS news agency report Tuesday, the government took the unusual step of acknowledging unrest in the Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan because of the dispute over which republic should control it. The report read on national television said the demands of the demonstrators "contradict the interests of the working people."

The government newspaper Izvestia Tuesday called for more public discussion of the dispute, acknowledging a "mass meeting" of protesters in Yerevan, student boycotts and the involvement of national party officials in trying to resolve the conflict.

Seoul students stage attack to protest inauguration

SEOUL (Agencies) — South Korean students armed with home-made bombs seized the U.S. Information Service office Wednesday in a protest against Thursday's presidential inauguration and the building was shaken by two explosions before police overpowered the attackers.

Officials said there were no reports of injuries.

Two of the students, holding explosive devices and draped in South Korean flags, stood at shattered windows on the second floor yelling "Yankee go home" as riot police quickly ringed the building in the heart of capital.

The students hurried at least one bomb into the street, according to witnesses.

Police officials said the students claimed they were armed with 18 homemade bombs. An official said the devices were crude chemical concoctions.

Dole, Robertson get boost ahead of 'super Tuesday'

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. presidential contenders Robert Dole and Pat Robertson were given a boost on their way to the major "super Tuesday" primary elections of March 8 by two relatively minor contests in Minnesota and South Dakota.

Senate minority leader Dole was the big Republican winner in Tuesday's primaries in the two mid-western states. Former television evangelist Pat Robertson, also a Republican, apparently finished second in both votes.

Missouri Congressman Richard Gephardt, winner in the South Dakota Democratic contest, and Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis, first in Minnesota, strengthened their claims to be leading contenders for their party's nomination.

Vice-President George Bush, the Republican frontrunner in national opinion polls, quit campaigning in South Dakota and made little effort in Minnesota in order to focus on the "super Tuesday" primary, which involves most southern states.

Primary elections, part of the presidential selection process, are held in individual states so voters can select delegates to support their preferred candidates at national party conventions in the summer.

The results in Minnesota and South Dakota were unsettling for

Bush, who is facing a stiff challenge from Robertson in the south and has now been beaten by the former preacher in three of the first four voter tests.

Dole, who said Bush's decision to opt out of the midwest contests demonstrated he would be a weak national candidate, hopes the two wins will help him in the south. But his organization there appears to be the weakest of the three top candidates.

Dole needed his latest victories after a second place finish in last Tuesday's New Hampshire primary.

He captured 57 per cent of the South Dakota vote and more than 40 per cent of the Minnesota ballot.

Bush had about 28 per cent in Minnesota compared with 11 per cent for Bush. With a handful of votes still to be counted in South Dakota, he had 19 per cent against Bush's 18 per cent.

In the Democratic contest, Gephardt beat Dukakis 45-40 per cent in South Dakota and Tennessee Senator Albert Gore was third with nine per cent.

In Minnesota, Dukakis had about a third of the vote with black rights leader Jesse Jackson and Illinois Senator Paul Simon battling for second with about 18 per cent. Gephardt had just eight per cent.

COLUMNS 7&8

Barcelona gypsies fight Africans

BARCELONA (R) — More than 100 Africans and gypsies were detained in Barcelona after street battles over adulterated drugs, the provincial government's office said Wednesday. The spokesman said two gypsies died after consuming adulterated drugs, and their relatives attacked African drug-peddlers in revenge Monday. He said most of the foreigners arrested came from North African countries and were likely to be expelled from Spain.

U.S. navy rescues whale in Gulf

ABOARD THE USS TRUXTUN (R) — The U.S. navy mounted a surprise operation in the Gulf of Oman Sunday — rescuing a huge sperm whale trapped in several hundred metres of nylon fishing net. "In my years of naval service I have been called upon to perform many tasks, but nothing like this," said Captain Clinton Conway, commander of the guided missile cruiser Truxtun. A helicopter from the aircraft carrier Enterprise spotted the struggling 13-metre, 30-tonne female whale and radioed the Truxtun, which was 50 kilometres away. When the cruiser reached the scene, it lifted the net with hooks and secured the whale alongside the vessel. A team of men then set about cutting the creature free. Four hours later, with a strand of net still caught between its teeth like dental floss, the whale swam free.

Man threatens Reagan by mail — from jail

PITTSBURGH (R) — A 19-year-old Pittsburgh man pleaded guilty to threatening President Reagan via a letter he wrote while serving time in the county jail. Paul Zagowski pleaded guilty in federal court Monday to writing Reagan a letter "containing a threat to take his life or inflict bodily harm upon him," said a statement issued by prosecutors. Zagowski admitted writing the letter in Pittsburgh's Allegheny county jail last November while awaiting trial on related charges they said. If convicted, he could face up to five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine. The full text of the letter was not released.

Weinberger receives British knighthood

LONDON (AP) — Caspar Weinberger received an honorary knighthood from Queen Elizabeth II Tuesday, the highest royal honour Britain has bestowed on an American. The brief, private ceremony at Buckingham Palace didn't mean the former U.S. defense secretary would become "Sir Caspar." That accolade is reserved for the queen's own subjects. But it was Britain's way of saying thanks to an exceptionally good friend. Asked why he got the knighthood, Weinberger replied: "I haven't the faintest idea." The announcement Feb. 1 cited his "outstanding and invaluable contribution" to Anglo-American defence cooperation and his "unfailing support and assistance" during the 1982 Falkland Islands war between Britain and Argentina.

Taj Mahal to close once a week

NEW DELHI (R) — The Taj Mahal, India's most famous tourist attraction, may soon close one day a week for maintenance. P.V. Narasimha Rao, minister for human resources development, quoted by Indian newspapers Tuesday, said the proposal would be introduced in parliament during the current session. The white marble tomb complex in Agra, 200 kilometres south of New Delhi, attracts more than three million visitors every year. The main building, with a minaret at each corner and stately central dome, houses a mock vault, while the real tomb is underneath in a tiny, unventilated mortuary chamber. Plans call for closing this to tourists whose breathing, sweat and stocking feet before entering.

U.S. Senate committee probes alleged FBI abuses

WASHINGTON (R) — The Senate Intelligence Committee has opened a probe into alleged abuses of power by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) during its probe into a American group opposed to U.S. policy in El Salvador.

"The American people want to make certain that the authority of the FBI is not abused in terms of legitimate and rightful domestic political dissent," Senator David Boren said as he opened the first of what could be several private and public hearings into the affair.

Documents released last month showed that hundreds of Americans and several organizations came under FBI surveillance from March 1983 to June 1985

because of their links to the Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador (CISPES).

CISPES is a private group created in 1980 to oppose Reagan administration policies in El Salvador.

Some legislators and civil liberties groups are charging the FBI overstepped the legal bounds of domestic surveillance and may have violated rights to free speech and legitimate political dissent guaranteed in the U.S. constitution.

"It's simply unacceptable for the FBI to conduct sweeping investigations of American citizens... unless there is a clear and present danger to the national security," Senator Bill Bradley told the hearing.

Documents released last month showed that hundreds of Americans and several organizations came under FBI surveillance from March 1983 to June 1985</